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Date of Deposit: - March 13, 2006

Type of Document(s): - Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/21)  
- Amendment and Response to Non-Final Office Action  
(10 pages)  
- Postcard Receipt

Application No.: - 09/658,778

Filing Date: - September 11, 2000

Applicant(s): - Ghassan SEMAAN

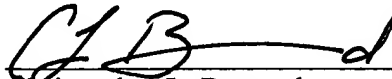
Title: - METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PARTITIONING  
SONET FRAMES INTO LOGICAL CHANNELS  
TO OPTIMIZE BANDWIDTH UTILIZATION

Examiner: - Ahmed Elallam

Art Unit: - 2668

Attorney Docket No.: - 10.0524

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Christopher L. Bernard  
Registration No.: 48,234

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**TRANSMITTAL  
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

12

Application Number

09/658,778

Filing Date

September 11, 2000

First Named Inventor

Ghassan SEMAAN

Art Unit

2668

Examiner Name

Ahmed Elallam

Attorney Docket Number

10.0524

**ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)**☐

Fee Transmittal Form

☐

Fee Attached

☒

Amendment/Reply (10 pages)

☐

After Final

☐

Affidavits/declaration(s)

☐

Extension of Time Request

☐

Express Abandonment Request

☐

Information Disclosure Statement

☐

Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)

☐Reply to Missing Parts/  
Incomplete Application☐Reply to Missing Parts  
under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53☐

Drawing(s)

☐

Licensing-related Papers

☐

Petition

☐Petition to Convert to a  
Provisional Application☐

Power of Attorney, Revocation

☐

Change of Correspondence Address

☐

Terminal Disclaimer

☐

Request for Refund

☐

CD, Number of CD(s) \_\_\_\_\_

☐

Landscape Table on CD

☐

After Allowance Communication to TC

☐Appeal Communication to Board  
of Appeals and Interferences☐Appeal Communication to TC  
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)☐

Proprietary Information

☐

Status Letter

☒Other Enclosure(s) (please identify  
below):

Remarks

Express Mail Certificate  
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Firm Name

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Signature



Printed name

Christopher L. Bernard

Date

March 13, 2006

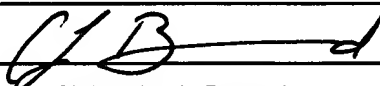
Reg. No.

48,234

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Christopher L. Bernard

Date

March 13, 2006

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) ) Ghassan SEMAAN  
Application No. ) 09/658,778  
Filing Date ) September 11, 2000  
Title ) METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PARTITIONING  
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Examiner ) Ahmed Elallam  
Art Unit ) 2668

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 USA

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**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sir/Madam:

In response to the non-final Office Action mailed December 13, 2005, rejecting Claims 1-21 of the above-referenced Application, in which Claims 1-21 are pending, Applicant respectfully requests that the following amendments be entered and remarks be considered. In view of these amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the Application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests such action.